

THE BANNER.

E. C. & S. F. MURRAY, Editors.

LOUISIANA. MISSOURI.

MONDAY, FEB. 14.

The next Democratic District Convention (for this the 2d Congressional District,) will be held at Herman in Gasconade county, on the 4th Wednesday in March next.

The next Democratic State Convention will be held at Jefferson City, on the 4th Monday in March next.

We will say for the information of the public, that the Post Office heretofore kept in the Store House of J. N. Bryson & Co. has been removed to the Store House of Joseph Richardson, Esq., on Water Street. Mr. Richardson has recently been appointed Post Master at this place.

PROPOSITION FOR PEACE.

The rumors that a proposition for peace has been sent from Mexico to Washington begin to justify the conclusion that Mexico has been brought to her reason at last. We have seen nothing of a definite character however, but the rumors that reach us from Washington seem to confirm similar reports from Mexico, rendering it probable that some kind of overture has been made through Scott and Trist to the War Department at Washington. This proposition is said to recognize the Rio Grande as the Boundary line to the position offered by Trist, thence west ceding to the United States, New Mexico and the Californias, for which Mexico is to receive the sum of \$30,000,000.

If it is true that a proposition has been received, such as can be entertained, since the addition outlay of treasure by our Government it will no doubt be promptly submitted to the Senate, when we will see how those anti-war whigs will act; who are opposed to continuing the war, and opposed to indemnity. Will they reject the proposition for peace because it brings with it indemnity? We will see.

ARMY COURT MARTIAL.

Col Fremont concluded the reading of his defence on the 26th ultimo., after which the court went into secret session, and upon the doors being opened the Judge Advocate said he would briefly argue a single point the next day. We presume we may look very soon for a final decision.

A correspondent of the *Metropolitan* proposes the vote cast for President Polk, as a basis, upon which the different Counties shall be represented in the Dem. State convention soon to assemble at Jefferson City. No vote cast in the State since that time, will be more general in its character, or present a better basis, for the action of the convention. Counties that have been formed since that election, should divide the votes with the counties from which they were taken, or both adopt the vote that most nearly reflects the strength of the party, since that election. In case of delegations from Counties dividing, it will be easy to tell what vote is represented by each delegate by simple division, and to credit the candidates accordingly. If a County should have but one delegate present, let that delegate represent her whole strength; if several, let her strength be divided amongst them. The same rule will do for the consideration of the delegates to the district convention.

To suggest an equitable plan is all that is warranted at present, the consideration of which may facilitate the general understanding and action of the conventions.

The Washington correspondent of the *New York Tribune* says: Gen. Taylor has written to Jefferson Davis in favor of the Independent Treasury and Tariff of 1846.

The weather has been mild and dry for several days past, during which time the river fell to a lower point here, than it has been known for many years. Within the last three days it has raised two feet. Weather pleasant, with heavy thunder and lightning last night, accompanied with rain.

LYCEUM DEBATE.

The next question before this Society is: Resolved that Charles the 1st of England, was justifiable in Signing the death Warrant of the Earl of Strafford. The discussion will commence on Thursday evening next at 6 P.M. o'clock precisely. A public invitation is extended to Community.

That the Democratic party is not singular in the charge, that the ultra Whig press and Whig orators, have contributed more to fan the flame of Mexican passion, to protracting the war by keeping alive in the Mexican mind the lingering hope that peace will come without indemnity, look to the evidence of men who have felt and seen the folly of such an unpatriotic course. Scarcely an officer who expresses his opinion freely, of either party, but does not condemn it to the uttermost of language.

"Mustang" the Whig correspondent of the *New Orleans Delta*, thus notices the "aul and comfort" given to the enemy by the speeches of Messrs. Clay and Webster:

The speeches of Mr. Clay and Mr. Webster have been received here. If these gentlemen want to aid and assist the enemy, why do they not go into their ranks at once? If they had Mexican muskets on their shoulders, they could not assist the Mexicans as much, or do us as much harm, as they have done by their speeches. In the name of God, will the politicians of our country never cease gambling for the Presidency upon the blood of our country? Our army dreads not danger, nor do they fear to die in defence of their country, but they do dislike to be sacrificed to the unholy ambition of aspiring politicians and political knaves. Is there no way by which our friends at home can put a stop to the unpatriotic conduct of politicians, who would sacrifice the whole army in order to give tone to the next Presidential election? The army will defend and fight the battles of the country; then let their friends at home defend them from the injuries arising from such speeches as these, or the conduct of such men.

MUSTANG.

We failed to notice last week that the Democratic members of both Houses of Congress—having been called upon by public meetings of the people—agreed in a caucus meeting, upon the City of Baltimore as the place, and the 4th Monday in May as the time, for holding the next Democratic National Convention to nominate candidates for President and Vice President.

Motions to fix the time upon the 4th of July, and to designate Cincinnati as the place, were voted down in the meeting.

WRIGHT'S CASKET.—We have received the 1st number of a monthly paper of the above title published in Philadelphia at the exceeding low rate of 25 cents a year.—The Casket is a handsome, good-sized sheet, devoted chiefly to the elevation or improvement of the present system of Education, and the dissemination of useful knowledge. Its articles are written with ability, and are calculated to exert a healthy and moral influence in community, which should give it the widest circulation, especially amongst the Ladies, to whom it is particularly recommended. We copied several of its articles last week.

The Legislature of Iowa has adjourned without electing either Judges of the Supreme Court or U. S. Senators. This State has no Senators in Congress, and cannot now have for another year. Soon after the Legislature assembled, the rights of several democratic members to their seats were disputed, about which they wrangled most of the session. The democrats have a majority in the Senate, but a *possum* had the casting vote in the House, who was instructed to vote with the democrats, but acted with the Whigs, which caused them to put off the election.

MR. MURRAY—

I notice in the last number of the *Democratic Banner*, an article over the signature of "Many voters of Buffalo," calling upon me to become a candidate for the office of Constable of Buffalo Township, at the next August election. In reply I would beg leave to say, that I would have no objections to receiving the office, and should my friends see proper to use my name in connection with the said office, and elect me, I pledge myself to discharge the duties to the best of my abilities.

You will, therefore, please announce my name as a candidate for the office of Constable of Buffalo Township, and oblige very respectfully, your friend,

JOHN GRIMMIT.

Feb. 10th, 1848.

An arrival at Charleston, from St. Domingo, brings accounts confirmatory of the report received at New York of a detected conspiracy and the execution of the leader, the Minister of Finance.

The Legislature of Iowa, at its recent session, appointed Charles Mason, Wm. G. Woodward and Stephen Hempstead, to revise and codify the statute laws of the State.

From the *Telegraphic Despatches of the St. Louis Republican.*

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 4.

Senator Pearce has been unanimously re-elected to Congress, by the Legislature of Maryland.

The Whig Congressional committee appointed the 7th of June, for the holding of the Whig National Convention, at Independence Hall, Philadelphia.

A PROSPECT OF PEACE.

Attack upon the American Settlements in California—Capture of Arista, Valencia, Torrejon, and Minon.

LOUISVILLE, Feb. 5.

The ship *Edith* has arrived at New Orleans from Vera Cruz, bringing dates to the 20th ult.

The Mexican Commissioners had submitted a treaty of peace, based upon the propositions submitted by Mr. Trist at Tacubaya. The document has been forwarded to Washington.

Five hundred California Rangers recently attacked the American settlements of Lapre and San Jose. They defeated the settlers, drove them from the towns, and fired the buildings. Two American vessels had been despatched to assist the settlers against the marauders.

Col. Wynkoop, while pursuing a party of guerrillas, succeeded in capturing the celebrated Mexican leaders, Generals Arista and Valencia. He immediately released them on parole.

Col. Dominguez, with the Mexican spy regiment, attached to the American army, pounced upon Cols. Torrejon, Minon, and their whole cavalcade, recently, at Tobuca. Their trains, tents, equipage, and army traps were all taken.

Specie was daily arriving at the capital, being part of Gen. Scott's assessed levies.

The death of Com. Ridgely is announced—his disease was the gout.

GEN. TAYLOR.—We have private letters from Washington assuring us of the prevalence of a general desire there that Gen. Taylor should make public his views on the Mexican war. Some appear to entertain doubts as to his views, and merely all admit the necessity of his making an explicit public expression of them. Our foreign relations will be in his hands the solution of the Mexican problem, if that problem is not solved under Polk, will be in his hands, should he be elected, and it is thought to be indispensable that he should be known to be in favor of ending the war by falling back to a line, and opposed to the annexation of any considerable part of inhabited Mexican territory.—*Louisville Journal.*

So it seems the Whigs are beginning to be alarmed at Gen. Taylor's non-commitalism. His earnest advocate, of the *Louisville Journal*, marks out a declaration for him to make, as the condition precedent to Whig support. But why confine his declaration of principles to one subject? Why not ask his views on all the great questions affecting the prosperity of the country—its internal policy? Thus far Bailey Peyton has done most of the confidential writing, and is anxious to secure Taylor's nomination by secret pledges to Whig politicians.—(St. Louis Union.)

FROM FORT MANN.—News from Santa Fe to the 16th ult., has been received.

Col. Gilpin was at Fort Bent, preparing to anticipate an attack on him threatened by a combined force of Comanches and Mexicans who had concentrated at a point 250 miles South. An express had been sent to Fort Mann, for Company B and a section of artillery, also for Lieut. Tuttle. The latter, however, was not overtaken before reaching Fort Leavenworth. The order on Fort Mann it was feared could not be complied with, for lack of teams, &c. All of the horses except a dozen or so, had perished; also nearly every mule. Only about one hundred oxen remained of the 800 taken out with the trains.

Col. Gilpin was anxious to move forward by the middle of February. A detachment left Fort Mann under command of Lieut. O'Hara, on the 24th of December, to escort a sutler's train to Fort Bent. On the 23d, every man in the detachment refused to obey orders and deserted the Lieutenant. Col. Gilpin has ordered a Court Martial in the case. At Fort Bent, there was an inadequate supply of provisions, and the cavalry was in bad condition. Efforts had been made to provide supplies from Taos, but in vain.—(St. Louis Union.)

At the Democratic State Convention, of New York, held at Albany, on the 28th ult., Judge Denio presided. An address in opposition to the Wilmot-proviso, in favor of free trade, &c., was adopted. All the counties in the State, except four, were represented.

For the Banner.

MR. EDITOR.—Sir: I have noticed in the last two Nos. of the Banner that a Mr. Inquirer has taken upon himself to place before the public the late outrage by the Board of Trustees, upon common honesty, law, and in fact every thing that should be held sacred.

While I am opposed to doubling teams, I must be allowed to state some facts that will place before the public the character of the present Board of Trustees, in its true light; and in doing so, you will bear in mind (it being your privilege to know me,) that I am a plain man, and that I must necessarily use plain language, and in the doing of which I aim to say what I mean. In order, sir, to be as brief as possible, I will say that the present Board, in their acts, have been obstinate, mean and selfish, and that they have not, in the Wharf project, carried out the general interest of the town.

They were told sir, that it was the interest of the town to build a wharf at the foot of South Carolina Street, giving 100 feet front, and falling from thence to the bed of the river at the rate of one foot in five, or five and a half, which would make the wharf about 180 feet from the line of buildings on Water Street to its extreme point, in, at or near to the water. To this the Board raised the hue and cry a *dry land concern*. Was it, Mr. Editor, any business of theirs whether it was or was not a *dry land concern*? when they knew well enough that it was the wish of the people, and the interest of the people too of course. Another objection (I am surprised sir, at the ignorance of some men who get office in this county, it almost puts me against a government of the people; but the present ignorant Board is rather to be attributed to accident, than a want of capacity in the citizens of our town to choose their rulers.) But I have strayed from the subject; another objection I said, was raised by the Board to a South Carolina location, which was shown to be groundless—they were shown that it was the place the people wanted it; that it was the centre of business, and far above the centre of town; that the whole lower part of town was susceptible of improvement; that even a *cart load* of earth thrown over any part of it, would improve it; they were shown, too, that to build a wharf at Georgia Street would spoil the landing below; that all kinds of filth would settle below the wharf, but they had not sense enough to see the philosophy of it, and therefore disbelieved it.

They were told then by the same individual (who proposed to build a wharf from South Carolina to Georgia street, for the moderate sum of about ten thousand dollars or twenty years wharfage,) that there would be an advantage in commencing the wharf proposed by him at S. C. Street, and work up; that the sediment would be deposited above the wharf, and as it would be several years under way, it would aid very materially the builder. Oh, but says the Board, you told us that the sediment would be deposited below and spoil the landing. It is not my business to show where the sediment would deposit, but one of two things is plain, that is, that the deposit would be either above or below; but the Board, poor grumps (ignorance is not always a fault,) had not sense enough, or were too obstinate to believe either. When Mr. — told them the landing would fill up below, they said nay; he then, being disposed to accommodate, told them it would fill up above, but they still could not believe him. He then told them that he would build a wharf as he had before proposed, for two thirds of the wharfage for 18 or 20 years; if the town would take \$1500 stock; an amount supposed to be one third of the cost of building the said wharf. The Board objected to this too, saying that he asked too much. They were then shown that it was very reasonable, that it would take all of 18 or 20 years for them (him) to get his pay, with a reasonable interest for the use of his money. Notwithstanding the ignorance of the Board they could not help seeing that said individual would be making a sacrifice for the people; I say sir, they did see it, yet they raised the poor pitiful objection that the town would be making a sacrifice too. But they were shown by said individual that it would be a profitable investment on the part of the town—that the town would pay one third of the stock, and get one third of the proceeds, and that at the lowest estimate he had heard made by any one, it would only take six years for the town to get its money back. Well, if you will believe me, Mr. Editor, they had not sense to see how it could be, that the town, paying one third, and

drawing one third, would get its money back in six years; and the said individuals, paying two thirds and drawing two thirds, must have the proceeds for twenty years to get theirs back, and make a sacrifice for the dear people (God help them,) at that—a perfect *plian case*.

MR. EDITOR, it is very unpleasant to me to have to write of such ignorance, and it must be almost insupportable to have to serve in company with such men, and if I was a member of the Board, I would immediately resign, and devote as much of my time as I could spare to prevent accidents in elections, in future. There is one thing certain, were I as able, and as much interested as "Inquirer," they would receive no mercy at my HANDS.

MR. EDITOR.—Two Irishmen were once hunting Birds, when one of them spied a sandy headed Wood-Pecker. Pat, (being suspicious that the bird had placed itself in view to be shot at,) raised his gun with the meek intention of blowing out its brains; stop, said Jemmy, don't waist your ammunition, don't ye see how he nicks his head against that tree; look! Jasus, look, his head is bloody now, jist wait Pat, and he'll kill himself. Seriously, Mr. Editor, in my opinion, this Mr. "Enquirer" has run his head against something that *hurts*, I think that if you will examine him you will find his head bloody, and after giving him a sufficient store of information to enable him to tell the truth, you will but take pity on him, he'll kill himself. SIMON.

GEN. TAYLOR.—The Taylor meeting in New Orleans must be considered a full expression of his plans for the Presidential contest. Bailey Peyton was chairman of the committee on resolutions, and whilst they are studiously silent on all party questions, the following two of the series are explicit enough. He will not be backed off by Mr. Clay:

3. Resolved, That we take pleasure in announcing to the friends of Gen. Taylor all over the Republic, that we have the best reasons for assuring them that, come what may, Gen. Taylor will not retire from the position in relation to the Presidency in which the people have placed him.

4. Resolved, That it is the sense of this meeting that the refusal of Gen. Taylor to become the candidate of any particular party, so far from constituting a just ground of complaint, should be considered as evidence of his superior qualifications for the discharge of the duties of President.

Overland Route from Lake Superior.—Wm. Bruce, Esq., of Green Bay, has the mail contract on the Route from Green Bay to Copper Harbor via L'Anse. He spent several weeks last fall in exploring and marking a road. He succeeded so that the trip this winter is made from L'Anse to Green Bay in ten days with ease, and no guides are needed. Mr. Bruce has made arrangements to carry any number of passengers that may wish to avail themselves of his services.

LUCKY MAN.—The Washington correspondent of the *Philadelphia Bulletin*, says that Senator Cameron, of Pennsylvania, has realized some \$300,000 by the sale of his lands in Virginia to some English company.

The Montreal Herald records the death, on the 19th ult., of the Hon. James Reid, ex-Chief Justice of the Court of King's Bench, in Canada.

THE GAINES CASE.—We have been favored with a copy of a brief, written by Col. Christy, of this city, in the case of Patterson vs. Gaines, recently decided by the Supreme Court of the United States.—Col. Christy was one of the counsel of Mrs. Gaines, before the circuit Court, where the case was originally tried. The points made by Col. Christy, in his brief, and ably argued by him, have been sustained by the Supreme Court at Washington. These points were the legitimacy of Myra Gaines, her heirship to the property of her father, Daniel Clark, and the validity of the will of 1813, recognizing Myra as his daughter.—Col. Christy has been a long time engaged in collecting the testimony and prosecuting the argument of this case, under circumstances which would have discouraged almost any other man, and did in fact break down several other Attorneys. The appeal was carried up mainly by his persuasion and effort. Col. Christy thinks that this decision settles the question of Mrs. Gaines' right to the immense property claimed by her. On the other hand, we are told by the Attorneys who oppose Mrs. Gaines, that this was a mere made up case,—that the party opposed to Mrs. Gaines consented to the admission of evidence which was not legal, and was rejected in other suits, and the decision of the Supreme Court is